



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 06, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 146

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was steady to weak. Demand was slow to moderate although food service was better aided by catering for holiday parties and fast food promotions. Supplies were at least adequate and readily available and at times discounted. In the parts structure, wings were moving well with supplies balanced to well cleared. All other items were adequate to ample; trading was light even with numerous retail ads for breast items present. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 61.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 58.50 cents last year on the 8th of December, 1999.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)

BREASTS - B/S	124.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	64.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	82.50
LEG QUARTERS	27.00
WINGS	81.00

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 12/02/00	2000	1999
EGGS SET	181,250	180,467
CHICKS PLACED	144,131	142,610
		PREVIOUS YEAR
		0
		+01

BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES UP SLIGHTLY

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 181 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 2, 2000. This was up slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 144 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 2, 2000. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 1999. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2000, through December 2, 2000, were 6.90 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 13-Jan-01 IS ESTIMATED AT 144.0 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 136.0 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 144.3 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 157.5 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 56.51 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN The market tone was generally steady on regular commitments with new negotiations barely steady. Offerings ample and slow to clear. Buyer needs selective. Interest in additional product slow to develop even at sharper discounts. Demand by stores light for whole body and moderate for parts, restaurants moderate to good best by fast food. Floor stocks adequate. The market tone was weak on breasts and barely steady on balance of parts.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was steady at best. Demand was seasonally slow to fair with limited trading. Supplies were at least sufficient for present needs. In the parts structure, trading was strongest for wings with supplies balanced to well cleared. Breast items were adequate to ample with spot reports of increased interest noted due to upcoming retail ads. Dark meat was more than adequate with light demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

MIDWEST The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady to barely steady. Offerings of additional whole birds limited with Wogs moderate to heavy. Retail and food service demand was sluggish, slow to moderate at best. Retail features and fast food promotions stimulating best interest. Retail features noted in the Chicago area on boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.89 and split breasts at 79 cents. In Ohio, a major chain featuring boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.79 and \$1.98. Floor stocks were in a full range with current commitments satisfying most distributor needs. Sizes were desirable. Parts trading was lackluster overall with increased offerings reported. Supplies of wings were in close balance and all other items fully adequate or available for trade needs. The market tone was steady on wings and cautiously steady to weak on the balance.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers remained limited as dealers continued to adopt a cautious posture and work on a hand-to-mouth basis. Offerings of all sizes were readily available. Retail and distributive movement was light and disappointing. The market tone was barely steady to weak. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were about adequate to balanced at times. Boneless-skinless breasts were ample and often attractively priced to stimulate movement. Leg quarters were readily available. Wings continued to see active interest.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to cook whole birds was again noted as seasonally light to moderate. Seller offerings remained readily available and competitively priced. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate, instances moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent lower at 52 to 66 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly weak. In the parts complex, seller confidence was building where inquiry for bone-in breasts was increasing. Other items were at least adequate for the light to fair and mostly cautious buying interest.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED
	U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	47-67
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	56.18
NO. OF BOXES	12,463
*7 of 8 plants reporting.	

DECEMBER 05, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DECEMBER 06, 2000

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	865	101.00-192.00	125-130	127.79
TENDERLOINS	155	145.00-235.00	145-150	156.94
BREAST - LINE RUN	75	64.00-67.00	64-66	64.73
FRONT HALVES	105	57.00-60.00	-	58.67
LEGS	160	31.00-46.00	31-33	34.75
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	502	20.00-23.00	20-22	20.65
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,461	20.50-28.00	24-26	24.58
WINGS (WHOLE)	306	75.00-82.00	76-77	80.32
WINGS (CUT)	543	90.00-106.00	90-94	94.22
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	881	98.00-192.00	125-130	129.99
TENDERLOINS	165	140.00-235.00	140-145	151.52
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	124	31.00-46.00	31-33	31.48
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	422	18.00-23.00	18-20	18.92
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,631	22.00-28.00	23-25	24.58
WINGS (WHOLE)	306	77.00-82.00	77-79	80.71
WINGS (CUT)	661	79.00-107.00	89-91	94.65
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	54	68.00-85.00	-	72.08

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
38.50-41.50	39.66	38.00 - 42.00	39.21	41.54

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Midweek trucklot buying activity was very light as buying patterns remained cautious and dealers maintained limited floorstocks. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts were fully adequate to ample. Bone-in breasts were mostly adequate to occasionally balanced. Leg quarters were readily available and often slow to clear. Wings continued to clear well. Movement through retail and distributive channels was slow. The market tone was barely steady to instances weak on leg quarters, about steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

DECEMBER 05, 2000

DECEMBER 06, 2000

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	110	113.91	652,128
TENDERLOINS	135-140	142.26	203,440
BREAST - WITH RIBS	52-53	61.41	335,840
BREAST - LINE RUN	52	54.00	180,000
LEGS	34-35	37.58	291,800
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	22-23	24.00	669,419
DRUMSTICKS	26-27	34.36	241,030
THIGHS	30-31	32.63	239,600
B/S THIGHS	78-79	81.44	64,640
WINGS (WHOLE)	77-78	86.20	375,480
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.05	86,560
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	40-45	44.30	97,410
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	65-70	69.94	111,900

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	110	113.46	721,480
TENDERLOINS	130-135	135.13	134,960
BREAST - WITH RIBS	52-53	60.67	303,120
BREAST - LINE RUN	52	53.81	234,800
LEGS	34-35	37.62	212,640
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	21-22	22.29	665,257
DRUMSTICKS	26-27	33.82	198,450
THIGHS	30-31	30.61	200,489
B/S THIGHS	78-79	82.55	61,160
WINGS (WHOLE)	77-78	86.03	385,740
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.91	85,760
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	40-45	44.33	87,080
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	65-70	69.95	121,520

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	12/06	12/05	12/04	12/01	12/04	12/01	11/29	11/27		
ALA	3,904	3,935	3,846	3,759	5.15	4.94	3,870	4.88		
ARK	5,318	5,333	5,162	5,458	5.09	5.14	4,984	5.03		
DELMARVA	2,301	2,338	2,335	1,926	5.07	5.08	2,360	5.05		
KY-LA-TN	2,058	2,072	2,032	1,982	4.64	4.46	2,000	4.68		
MISS	2,831	2,769	2,858	2,790	5.11	5.06	2,676	5.03		
NC	2,640	2,465	1,905	2,746	6.17	6.01	2,650	6.03		
TEXAS	2,245	2,309	2,060	2,271	4.86	4.78	2,292	4.84		
TOTAL	21,297	21,221	20,198	20,932	5.13	5.06	20,832	5.08		
MON-WED	62,895 (A)						62,438 (A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 06-Dec 00 is estimated to be 31,863,000 up 2.21 percent from a week ago and up 8.6 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 29,339,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	81-84
ROASTERS 4# & UP	71-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	76
DUCKS	133
RABBITS-WHOLE	284
RABBITS-CUT UP	289

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 92-94
	DRY PACK 102-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 106-112
	DRY PACK 112-119
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 94
	DRY PACK 94
DUCKS	152-165

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING DEC-09-00

	CURRENT WEEK 12/09/00 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/02/00
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	147,293 (2)	156,959
LT HENS	1,952	1,874
HVY HENS	1,371	1,426
CHECK TOTAL	150,616	160,259

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 09-Dec-00 is 148.2 million head compared to 153.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 147.6 million head or 0.6 million less than estimated available. For week of 16-Dec-00 the estimated available is 146.1 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY LBS	PROCESSED POULTRY LBS
AM 4-Dec-00	71,525	75,555
AM 1-Nov-00	128,816	72,410
CHG	-57,291	3,145
PCT CHG	-44	4

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/04/00	11/27/00	12/07/99	12/04/00	11/27/00	12/07/99
PACIFIC COAST LOS ANGELES	6,000	10,614	7,784	7,626	7,856	13,761
	156	149	225	1,978	2,091	4,578

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 12/05/00

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	.95	.48	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.70	.95	.81	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	1.30	-	BANTAMS ea.	1.75	3.25	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	4.50	7.00	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.90	1.50	1.22	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	.25	-	GEESE ea.	-14.50	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	.20	.25	.22	TURKEYS ea.	5.50	8.50	-
DUCKS lb.	.40	1.30	1.05	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.90	1.50	1.08	RABBITS ea.	-	4.25	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.50	5.50	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	3.50	7.00	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	8.50	15.00	-
SILKIES ea.	-	6.50	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-				

TOTAL COOPS 108

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 04, 2000

	RANGE
HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	53-60
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	60-69

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City**NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME****USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.****POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southeast Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	